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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



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REPORT
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
AMERICAN
ÆSCULAPIAN SOCIETY:

DURING THE WINTER OF 1813—14.

TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED,

THE CONSTITUTION AND BYE-LAWS:

“BEING THE SECOND SESSION OF THE SOCIETY

SINCE ITS REVIVAL.

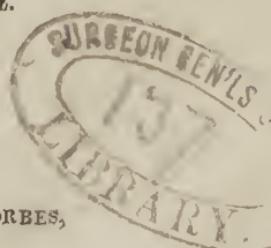


NEW-YORK:

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1814.



CONSTITUTION AND BYE-LAWS

OF THE

AMERICAN AEscULAPIAN SOCIETY.

PREAMBLE.

THERE are few situations in life where men do not associate together to answer some one purpose. We find this propensity pervades all classes and dispositions. In the study of Medicine, so much to be learned, where not only every different disease exhibits new symptoms, but from the difference of temperaments, situation and circumstances, as well natural as contingent, the same disease in two persons can scarcely be recognised: where the field of experiment and discovery is so wide as to be far beyond the possession of individual exertion, association becomes not only a pleasure, but necessity. By this means we acquire others' ideas, reap the fruit of others labours, and in a short time range through a space of reading, rarely allotted to the perseverance of one.

In all bodies associated together for the purposes of improvement, it is necessary that there should be regularity, order, peace and concord among the members; that all business should be transacted with harmony and system. But when this is left to the volition of individuals, disorder and disorganization are apt to creep in, and destroy or counteract the beneficial intentions:

To prevent which, it has been found necessary that they should be within themselves a regular organized body governed by a proper constitution and code of laws voluntarily enacted. To this system whoever subscribes his name becomes a member, and tacitly binds himself by the ties of honour to conduct in all respects as by them directed, as well as to defend them from violation and encroachment.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE FIRST.

Section First.—This Society shall be known and distinguished by the appellation of the American *Æsculapian Society*.

Section Second.—It shall hold its meetings at least once in each week during the Medical Session of the College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Section Third.—Its officers shall consist of a President, first and second Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, and Standing Committee.

Section Fourth.—Its officers shall be elected on every anniversary meeting, by ballot.

Section Fifth.—It shall have one meeting, known and distinguished, by the title of Anniversary, which meeting shall be held on the fourth Monday in November, of each year.

Section Sixth.—All alterations or amendments of this Constitution, shall be submitted in writing to the Society.

Section Seventh.—A majority of at least one third, shall in all cases be required for such alteration.

LAWS.

ARTICLE SECOND.

Section First.—This Society shall consist of honorary associates, honorary, ordinary and corresponding members, together with the officers before mentioned.

Section Second.—The Society shall be convened on the first Saturday of November, at seven o'clock, P. M. and continue to meet once a week during the session, which shall close on the last Saturday of February ensuing.

Section Third.—The business of the Society shall be confined exclusively to Medical, Surgical and Philosophical subjects.

Section Fourth.—No more than four persons shall be appointed to the discussion of one subject.

DUTY OF OFFICERS.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

ARTICLE THIRD.

Section First.—The President shall have the immediate direction of the Society; he shall check any improper disputes, and be invested with authority sufficient to conduct the business of the Society in proper order.

Section Second.—The President shall deliver an appropriate address before the Society on his first taking the chair.

Section Third.—It shall be the duty of the presiding officer to appoint persons for the discussion of each subject.

Section Fourth.—He shall also appoint persons to read dissertations before the Society at every ordinary meeting.

Section Fifth.—In any question where the Society shall be equally divided, he shall have the casting vote.

Section Sixth.—He shall appoint all special committees.

FIRST AND SECOND VICE PRESIDENTS.

ARTICLE FOURTH.

Section First.—The first Vice President shall officiate in the absence of the President, and in case they are both absent, the second Vice President shall take the chair.

THE TREASURER.

ARTICLE FIFTH.

Section First.—It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and collect all monies due to the Society.

Section Second.—He shall pay out no monies, except to the orders of the standing committee.

Section Third.—He shall render an official account of the state of the funds to the Society, at the expiration of each month.

SECRETARY.

ARTICLE SIXTH.

Section First.—It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record all the proceedings of the Society at each meeting, and to read the minutes of the preceding meeting.

Section Second.—He shall take charge of all the books and papers belonging to the Society.

Section Third.—He shall call off the names of all the members at each meeting.

Section Fourth.—He shall read the Constitution and Bye-Laws of the Society to new members, and to the old members at the commencement of every month.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

ARTICLE SEVENTH.

Section First.—A committee composed of three, called the Standing Committee, shall be elected annually by ballot.

Section Second.—It shall be the duty of this Committee to bring forward all motions for the alteration and amendment of the Constitution and Bye-Laws.

Section Third.—They shall take into consideration all subjects referred to them by the Society.

Section Fourth.—They shall regulate the expenses of the Society.

Section Fifth.—Their transactions shall be subject to the investigation of the Society.

HONORARY ASSOCIATES.

ARTICLE EIGHTH.

Honorary Associates shall be admitted by the unanimous consent of the Society.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

ARTICLE NINTH.

The Members of the former Æsculapian Society shall be considered as Honorary Members of this.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

ARTICLE TENTH.

Ordinary members removing from the city, shall, on expressing their desire in writing to the President, be considered as Corresponding Members.

ADMISSION OF MEMBERS.

ARTICLE ELEVENTH.

If any person wishes to become a member of this Society, he shall be proposed and regularly balloted for; and if two thirds of the Society appear in his favour, he shall be considered as elected; but if he shall not apply for initiation within one month after his election, he shall not be considered a member.

DUTY OF ORDINARY MEMBERS.

ARTICLE TWELFTH.

Section First.—Each member upon signing the Constitution, shall pay into the hands of the Treasurer the sum of one dollar, as a fee for initiation, and twenty-five cents per month during the session of the Society.

Section Second.—Each member upon signing the Constitution, shall be introduced to the Society by the presiding officer in the

following manner : "Sir, through the power and authority delegated to me by this Society, I introduce you as an ordinary member thereof."

Section Third.—Each ordinary member shall, in succession read a dissertation on some Medical or Philosophical subject.

Section Fourth.—Each member shall also be considered as bound to discuss at least one Medical question during the session.

PENALTIES.

ARTICLE THIRTEENTH.

Section First.—Any member who shall obstinately disobey the commands of the Society, or in any way disturb the peace and order of the same, shall be liable to expulsion.

Section Second.—Any member so arraigned, shall have the privilege of making his defence at the succeeding meeting.

Section Third.—A majority of two thirds shall be required for his expulsion.

DIPLOMAS.

ARTICLE FOURTEENTH.

Section First.—Each member of the Society shall be entitled to a Diploma, after having read a dissertation before the Society, and paid into the hands of the Treasurer seventy-five cents.

Section Second.—The Diploma shall be signed by the President, first and second Vice Presidents, and Secretary.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

ARTICLE FIFTEENTH.

Section First.—Seven members with any one of the officers shall constitute a quorum, and shall be authorised to transact business.

Section Second.—The Chair shall be taken at a quarter of an hour after the time appointed for meeting. The names of the ordinary members called over.—New members proposed and admitted.—The minutes of the preceding meeting read and confirmed.—Medical news and observations received.—Disserta-

tions read.—Theses discussed.—Questions for the succeeding meeting introduced.—Persons appointed to support them.—Persons to read dissertations at the next meeting appointed.—Reports of Committees heard, or other miscellaneous business transacted.—Society to be adjourned.

At an Anniversary meeting of the *American Aesculapian Society*, the following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:

VALENTINE MOTT, M. D. Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery, *President.*

WILLIAM VAN DEURSEN, A. M. *First Vice-President.*

JOHN K. RODGERS, A. B. *Second Vice-President.*

EDWARD DELAFIELD, A. B. *Treasurer.*

JAMES W. WARBURTON, *Secretary.*

MOSES RUDEN,

JOHN WAGNER, A. B. } *Standing Committee.*

PETER P. GALATIAN. }



HONORARY ASSOCIATES.



PROFESSORS OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

SAMUEL BARD, M. D. President of the College of Physicians and Surgeons.

BENJAMIN DE WITT, M.D. Vice President of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Prof. of Natural Philosophy.

WRIGHT POST, esq. Prof. of Anatomy and Surgery.

WILLIAM HAMERSLEY, M. D. Prof. of Clinical Medicine.

JAMES S. STRINGHAM, M. D. Prof. of Medical Jurisprudence.

JOHN C. OSBORN, M. D. Prof. of Obstetrics, &c.

VALENTINE MOTT, M. D. Prof. of Surgery.

SAMUEL L. MITCHILL, M. D. F. R. S. Ed. Prof. of
Natural History, &c. &c. &c. &c.

DAVID HOSACK, M. D. F. L. S. Prof. of the Theory
and Practice of Physic.

WILLIAM JAMES MAC NEVEN, M. D. Professor of
Chemistry.

J. AUGUSTINE SMITH, M. D. Prof. of Anatomy and
Surgery.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Dr. Peter C. Tappen,	-	Poughkeepsie, (N. Y.)
Henry U. Onderdonk, M. D.	Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London,	New-York.
Dr. John M. S. M'Knight,	-	ditto.
Dr. Guy C. Bayley,	-	ditto.
Samuel W. Moore, M. D.	-	ditto.
Gerardus A. Cooper, M. D.	-	ditto.
Dr. Fayette Cooper,	-	ditto.
Dr. Joseph M. Smith,	-	ditto.
Dr. Timothy P. Beers,	-	New-Haven, (Conn.)
Dr. Erastus L. Hart,	-	Litchfield, (Conn.)
Dr. Alpheus F. Stone,	-	Franklin, (Mass.)
Dr. James Inderwick,	-	New-York.
Gideon Shepard, M. D.	-	Fairfield, (Conn.)
Dr. John Neilson,	-	New-York.
Dr. Enos Barnes,	-	Lunenburg, (Vir.)
Dr. Bartow White,	-	Duchess, (N. Y.)
Eli Ives, M. D.	-	New-Haven, (Conn.)
Dr. James Gilbert,	-	ditto.
Dr. Henry Fish,	-	New-York.
Dr. Gilbert Smith,	-	ditto.
Dr. Amos Amsden,	-	Madison, (N. Y.)
Alire Raffeneau Delile, M. D.	-	Versailles, (France.)
Rev. Gamaliel S. Olds,	-	Marlborough, (Ver.)
Ezekiel Ostrander, M. D.	-	Newtown, (L. I.)
Dr Benjamin B. Bevier,	-	Ulster Co. (N. Y.)
Dr. John Cooper,	-	Poughkeepsie, (N. Y.)
Dr. John F. Harrison,	-	Richmond Co. (N. Y.)
Charles Gignilliat, M. D.	-	Savannah, (Geo.)
Jacob De La Motta, Surgeon 2d regt. U. S. army,		Charleston, (S. C.)
Ansel W. Ives,	-	Litchfield, (Conn.)

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Dr. James Gilbert,	-	-	-	New-Haven.
Dr. Nathan I. Bennet,	-	-	-	Litchfield, (Conn.)
Dr. Stephen W. Williams,	-	-	-	Mass.
Dr. Charles Beardslee,	-	-	-	Litchfield, (Conn.)
Mr. Stephen Hasbrouck,	-	-	-	Ulster Co. (N. Y.)
Mr. Daniel H. Fitzhugh,	-	-	-	Hagerstown, (Md.)
Charles Gignilliat, M. D.	-	-	-	Savannah, (Geo.)



ORDINARY MEMBERS.

Daniel D. Annan,	-	-	-	Dutchess Co. (N. Y.)
Burr Bradley, A. B.	-	-	-	Fairfield Co. (Conn.)
Nathan I. Bennet,	-	-	-	do. do.
Charles Beardslee,	-	-	-	do. do.
Thomas W. Blatchford,	-	-	-	Lansingburgh, (N. Y.)
Cornelius C. Blatchly,	-	-	-	New-York.
John Cadle, A. M.	-	-	-	do.
Tunis Cooper,	-	-	-	Albany Co. (N. Y.)
*Springall Davies	-	-	-	New-York.
Edward Delafield, A. B.	-	-	-	do.
Benjamin Delavan,	-	-	-	Westchester, (N. Y.)
Nicoll H. Dering, A. B.	-	-	-	(Suffolk, N. Y.)
Floyd T. Ferris,	-	-	-	New-York
James M. Gardiner,	-	-	-	Orange Co. (N. Y.)

* *Deceased.*

Peter P. Galatian,	-	-	-	do.	do.
Augustus R. Griffen,	-	-	-		New-York.
Peter B. Helme,	-	-	-		do.
Stephen Hasbrouck,	-	-	-	Dutchess Co. (N. Y.)	
Asa Hillyer, Jun. A. B.	-	-	-	Newark, (N. J.)	
Daniel Hatsfield,	-	-	-		New-York.
William Jones,	-	-	-	Hertford Co. (N. C.)	
Daniel W. Kissam, Jun.	-	-	-		New-York.
John Lylburn,	-	-	-		do.
John Mairs,	-	-	-	Washington Co. (N. Y.)	
John W. B. Murray, A. B.	-	-	-		New-York.
William L. Mitchill,	-	-	-	Queens Co. (N. Y.)	
John K. Rodgers, A. B.	-	-	-		New-York.
Moses Ruden.	-	-	-		do.
Robert M. Sullivan, A. B.	-	-	-		do.
William Van Deursen, A. M.	-			New-Brunswick, (N. J.)	
Nicholas Van Vrankin, A. B.	-			Schenectady, (N. Y.)	
Robert H. Wilson, A. M.	-			District of Columbia.	
Stephen W. Williams,	-	-	-		Mass.
Elijah Ward,	-	-	-	Washington Co. (N. Y.)	
David M. Wharry,	-	-	-		Ulster Co. (N. Y.)
James W. Warburton,	-	-	-		Windsor, (N. C.)
John Wagner, A. B.	-	-	-		New-York
Samuel Woodruff,	-	-	-		Albany, (N. Y.)

AN INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS was delivered at the
commencement of the Session, by
Mr. John K. Rodgers.

DISSERTATIONS

READ BEFORE THE SOCIETY.

1. On the Nature and Cure of Gangrene. By *Moses Ruden.*
2. On Morbus Coxarius. By *Augustus R. Griffen.*
3. On Parturition. By *Daniel D. Annan.*
4. On Ophthalmia. By *J. W. Warburton.*
5. On Urinary Calculi. By *A. R. Griffen.*
6. On Dentition. By *Moses Ruden.*
7. On Hydrocephalus Internus. By *Thomas W. Blatchford.*
8. On Synochus. By *William Jones.*
9. On Respiration and Animal Heat. By *Edward Delafield.*
10. On Phthisis Pulmonalis. By *William Van Deursen.*
11. On the Sedative Effects of Cold. By *Peter P. Galatian.*

12. On the Physiology of the Pancreas and Liver.
By *John K. Rodgers.*
13. On Fistula in Ano. By *T. W. Blatchford.*
14. On Pneumonia Typhodes. By *William Van Deursen.*
15. On the Fœtal Circulation. By *A. R. Griffen.*
16. On Tetanus. By *Daniel Hatfield.*
17. The Use of Tepid Water in Cutaneous Erup-
tions. By *John W. B. Murray.*
18. On the Antisyphilitic Effects of the Muriate
of Gold. By *Peter B. Helme.*
19. On Tetanus. By *Samuel Woodruff.*
20. On the Physiology of the Placenta. By *J. W.
Warburton.*

QUESTIONS DISCUSSED BEFORE THE SOCIETY.

- 1. Can we from anatomical structure deduce any criteria of intellect ?**
Aff. Messrs. Ives and Annan.
Neg. Messrs. Van Deursen, Rodgers, and Wilson.
- 2. Do lithontriptics produce any salutary effect on urinary calculi ?**
Aff. Messrs. Wilson, Ives, and Helme.
Neg. Messrs. Van Deursen, Galatian, and Delafield.
- 3. Are worms a primary cause of disease ?**
Aff. Messrs. Wilson and Griffen.
Neg. Messrs. Van Deursen, Delafield, Helme and Rodgers.
- 4. Are there any direct sedatives ?**
Aff. Messrs. Helme and Woodruff.
Neg. Messrs. Ives, Wilson and Rodgers.
- 5. Does a putrescent state of the fluids ever take place in fever ?**
Aff. Messrs. Ruden, Galatian, and Wilson.
Neg. Messrs. Helme and Kissam.
- 6. Is consumption a curable disease ?**
Aff. Messrs. Wilson and Rodgers.
Neg. Messrs. Helme and Van Deursen.
- 7. Is opium proper in the last stage of Typhus ?**
Aff. Messrs. Delafield, Annan, and Rodgers.
Neg. Van Vrankin, Hillyer, and Galatian.

8. Is amputation ever proper in tetanus ?

Aff. Messrs. Wilson, Helme, and Rodgers.

Neg. Messrs. Van Deursen and Delasfield.

9. Is hectic fever owing to an absorption of matter ?

Aff. Messrs. Hatsfield, Van Vrankin, Wilson and Helme.

Neg. Messrs. Rodgers, Galatian and Van Deursen.

10. Are stimulating applications proper in burns ?

Aff. Messrs. Van Vrankin, Woodruff, and Helme.

Neg. Messrs. Rodgers and Murray.

11. Is Salivation necessary in the cure of syphilis ?

Aff. Messrs. Hatsfield, Warburton, and Wilson.

Neg. Messrs. Murray, Galatian, and Rodgers.

12. Is there a direct communication between the mother and the foetus in utero ?

Aff. Messrs. Wagner, Helme, Griffen, and Hatsfield.

Neg. Messrs. Warburton and Rodgers.

13. Is gout always an inflammatory disease ?

Aff. Messrs. Helme, Blatchford, and Rodgers.

Neg. Messrs. Galatian, Wilson, and Blatchly.

14. Is oxygen taken into the blood during respiration ?

Aff. Messrs. Delasfield and Dering.

Neg. Messrs. Galatian and Wagner,

15. Is the buffy coat of the blood a certain sign of inflammation ?

Aff. Messrs. Blatchly and Wilson.

Neg. Messrs. Rodgers and Helme.

16. Is it proper in any case of apoplexy to bleed profusely ?

Aff. Messrs. Rodgers, Blatchly and Warburton.

Neg. Messrs. Delasfield, Helme, Woodruff, and Griffen.

17. Is coagulable lymph thrown into the larynx
in synanche trachealis?

Aff. Messrs. Rodgers, Galatian, Blatchly, and Griffen.

Neg. Messrs. Helme, and Woodruff.

The Valedictory Address was delivered by Robert H. Wilson.

Extract from the minutes,

By order,

J. W. WARBURTON, *Secretary.*

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